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Some small changes have been made to the [home page](#) . Please note that most of the content previously included in the home page now resides in the new [welcome page](#).

There are signs of life on the sun. 2009 ended in a flurry of activity, the visible disk of the sun having had spots for 67% of the time in December, a sharp rise on the average for the year. All sunspots were members of the new Solar Cycle 24. Does this herald the climb out of the longest solar minimum for almost a century? [Watch here](#) for developments.

A new version of Logger32 was launched on 19 December 2009. Details of version 3.24.0 may be found [here](#). As always, read the instructions before installing.

Peter MI3FBW became a Silent Key on 19 December 2009 whilst Yvonne Barnes also passed away just a few days earlier. [Click](#) for more information.

Please note I now use the ARRL Logbook of The World facility. My entire log has recently been uploaded to LoTW.

SOS Radio Week is a week-long (and a bit) fund raising event for UK and Irish Amateur Radio operators to raise money for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI). It is organised to coincide with the RNLI's own SOS Fund Raising Day at the end of January. [Click for details](#).

Details of this years rallies will be published on the [Rallies](#) page but so far I have information on only a few rallies for 2010. Would Club Secretaries in GI and EI– land send me details as soon as possible of rally dates and venues which have been finalised in their area.

Staying with the theme of forthcoming events, if you have details of any major radio related events in your part of the world please let me know. This newsletter is distributed widely and I am happy to include news of events from near and far.

According to F8KBL, Radiocom.com is to cease operations after 10 years of service to French amateurs. [Click](#) for more details.

Is anyone out there using the bhi– NES10-2 noise cancelling speaker? If so, how do you find it, especially in relation to CW operation?

Welcome to new readers Karel, PA3GJU, who joined us over the Christmas/New Year holiday period; also to Adrian Lane, M3TVF who is a member of the Forest of Dean Amateur Radio Society and MI3XOI from the Lagan Valley ARS in Lisburn. As we go to press, two more readers sign in, viz Jeffrey Clarke, GI4HCN and Brendan Prunty, GI0OUZ, Glad to have you all on board and thank you for you kind words about the site.

Finally, may i take this opportunity to wish you all, and your families, a Happy New Year and lots of DX in 2010.

Pages updated include [Forthcoming Events](#), [News Headlines](#), [Propagation](#) and [Rallies](#).

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